

ARMED FORCES SPORTS COUNCIL (AFSC) STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES (SOP)

Purpose:

Provide procedures applicable to participation of military personnel in Armed Forces, national, and international sports competitions.

Scope:

Applicable to elements of Armed Forces sports competition and covers the following programs: Armed Forces Championships, National Championships, Conseil International du Sport Militaire (CISM) competitions, Pan American Games, Olympic Games, and other higher level international competitions. The approval of international competition is provided by the Secretary of Defense, subject to the determination by the Secretary of State that the interest of the United States will be served by this participation.

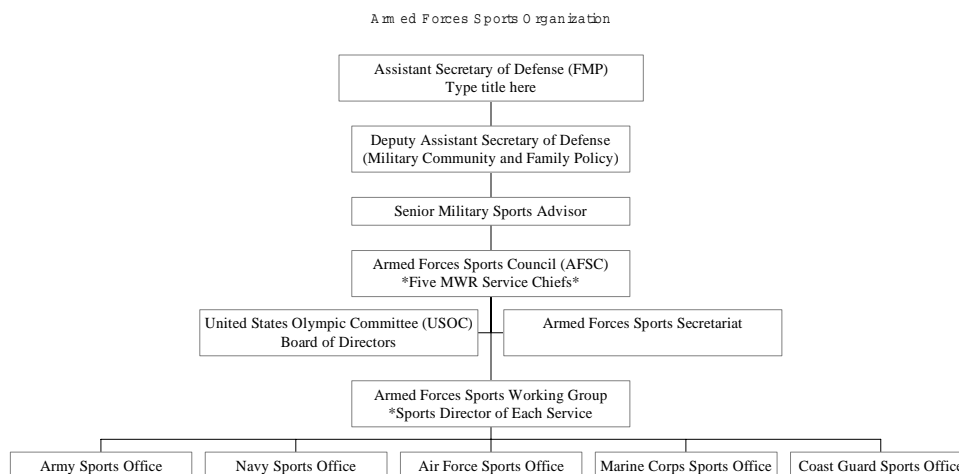
Content & Maintenance:

Content is based on actions of the Armed Forces Sports Council (AFSC) and subsequent approval of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (DASD) Personnel Support, Families and Education (PSF&E as provided by DOD Directive 1330.4, which governs the function of the AFSC, the AFSC Secretariat (AFSCS) and the organization and operation of sports related activities where three or more Armed Services are involved, and for Armed Forces personnel in international sports activities.

Objectives of the Armed Forces Sports Program:

Promote goodwill among the Armed Services through sports.
Promote the positive image of the Armed Forces through sports.
Provide the incentive and encourage physical fitness by promoting a highly competitive sports program.
Provide the avenue for military athletes to participate in national and international competitions.

Armed Forces Sports Organization:



History of Armed Forces Sports:

February 1944	First Articles of Agreement approved.
November 1947	First Inter-Service Sports Council (ISC) meeting w/member services: Army, Navy, and Air Force.
June 1951	U.S. joined CISM. U.S. Delegation to CISM Championships were primarily U.S. Forces from Europe.
February 1953	US Marine Corps becomes an ISC member. Established chairmanship to rotate annually among the four Services.
September 1954	First DoD Directive 1330.4 established.
March 1955	Enactment of Public Law 11.
October 1961	Revised DoD Directive 1330.4 with particular reference to CISM.
June 1962	Administration of US CISM Program transferred from USAREUR to CONUS: CISM Executive Office in HQs, Department of Army Sports Office.
January 1969	Permanent ISC secretariat established.
July 1978	Establishment of a CISM North American Liaison Office.
January 1982	Establishment and award of the first “Military Athlete of the Year” in conjunction with the Washington, DC Touchdown Club. CPT David Gilman, U.S. Army was the first recipient.
March 1983	US Military Sports Association (USMSA) chartered. The USMSA is a nonprofit organization that provides military athletes funds, equipment, and services to support their athletic training.
January 1985	Established and awarded the first female Athlete of the Year.
August 1988	Established Armed Forces male and female athlete of the year award for each service within the U.S. Armed Forces.
September 1995	The first Military World Games held in Rome Italy. Over 85 countries with over 6000 athletes participating in 17 sports. US Delegation had 300 participating in 14 of the 17 sports. Finished 8th overall in medal count.
August 1999	The 2 nd Military World Games held in Zagreb, Croatia. Total country participation was 82 with over 7000 athletes in 24 sports. The US Delegation was 300 participants in 21 of the 24 sports. Finished 2nd overall in medal count

The Sportsmanship Code:

Develop a strong, clean, healthy body, mind, and soul
Develop a strong urge for sportsmanlike conduct
Develop understanding of and respect for the rules
Develop courage in defeat, tolerance, and modesty in victory
Develop control over emotions and speech
Develop spirit of cooperation and team play

Armed Forces Sports Council (AFSC):

A. Meetings: The AFSC meets quarterly to review agenda items brought forward by the Armed Forces Sports Working Group (AFSWG) and votes on items as necessary.

B. Chairman: The AFSC chair rotates every two years (On October 1st) between the services, based on the following schedule:

SERVICE	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
USMC						X	X		
USA	X							X	X
USN		X	X						
USAF				X	X				

C. AFSC Meeting Attendees:

- Four (4) Council voting members
- Armed Forces Sports Council Secretariat Representative
- Working Group Chairperson
- AFSC Legal Representative
- Coast Guard Representative (non-voting)
- OSD Representative
- Invited Guests (approved by the AFSC chair)

D. AFSC Chairperson Responsibilities:

- Establish dates for AFSC meetings
- Approve and announce all guests who attend AFSC meetings
- Chair AFSC meetings
- Approve and sign final draft of AFSC minutes

E. Voting: Each member of the AFSC receives one vote on all agenda items. If, during a vote on an issue, council members split their vote, the item remains unchanged or ‘as is’. The Senior Military Sports Advisor (SMSA) is the tie-breaker.

F. Minutes: The AFSCS records AFSC meeting actions and publishes minutes within five (5) working days of the meeting. After review by all council members, they are approved by the chair and sent to the SMSA. The SMSA reviews and forwards the minutes to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management and Personnel) for final Department of Defense (DoD) approval. Once approved, copies are distributed to council members.

Armed Forces Sports Working Group (AFSWG):

A. Meetings: The AFSWG meets quarterly, in conjunction with AFSC meetings. The AFSWG chair identifies a meeting date and notifies other members.

B. Chairperson: The AFSWG is chaired by the same service that holds the AFSC chair, e.g. 2002 is USN.

SERVICE	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
USMC						X	X		
USA	X							X	X
USN		X	X						
USAF				X	X				

C. AFSWG Meeting Attendees:

- AFSWG Voting Members (representative from each service)
- AFSCS Representative
- Coast Guard Representative (non-voting)
- OSD Representative
- AFSC Legal Representative
- Invited guests (Approved by the AFSWG Chairperson)

D. Voting: Each member of the AFSWG receives one vote on all agenda items. If during a vote on an issue, members split their vote, the item remains unchanged and is forwarded to the AFSC for decision.

E. Minutes: The AFSCS records AFSWG meeting actions and publishes minutes within five (5) working days of the meeting. After review by all working group members, they are approved by the chair and copies are distributed to all AFSWG members.

F. AFSWG Chairperson Responsibilities:

- Establish dates for WG meetings.
- Approve and announce all guests who attend AFSWG meetings.
- Chair WG meetings.
- Approve and sign final draft of AFSWG minutes.
- Approve AFSC minutes.
- Liaison with the AFSC Chairperson and AFSCS.

G. AFSWG Member Responsibilities:

- Submit agenda items to AFSCS two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting.
- Attend AFSWG meetings ready to discuss and vote on all agenda items.
- Review minutes of meeting and return to AFSCS.
- Serve as liaison between the AFSWG and their council representative.

Armed Forces Sports Secretariat (AFSCS):

AFSCS Responsibilities:

- Disseminate agenda items for AFSWG meeting approximately 7 days prior to the AFSWG meeting.
- Advise AFSWG on pressing issues.
- Serve as liaison between AFSWG and AFSC.
- Serve as recorder for AFSWG and AFSC meetings.
- Publish and distribute draft minutes of AFSWG and AFSC within five (5) working days of meeting.
- Coordinate administrative changes to SOP with AFSWG Chair.
- Update AFS SOP and distribute to AFSWG members.

AFS Budget:

The AFSCS will prepare an operating budget each year for review by the AFSWG and AFSC. The budget will be part of the minutes of the appropriate AFSC meeting.

The Army non-appropriated fund will provide payment of AFSCS budget expenditures. The Army NAF will prorate budget expenditures to the four Services by line item billing each service semiannually.

The host service of the Armed Forces Championship will bill the other services for their share of expenses incurred at the site of each championship, training camp, and higher level competition.

CISM Technical Committees (TC) and National Governing Bodies (NGBs):

If an individual retires from active duty or as a DoD civilian while on a CISM Commission/Technical Commission or National Governing Body, the person will remain in their respective position until a qualified replacement, approved by the Armed Forces Sports Council, has been found. An open CISM/NGB position will be announced by the AFSCS for 30 days. Services will submit resumes and bios to the AFSCS. AFSWG members will recommend the best qualified individual to the AFSC for approval.

Armed Forces Championship Criteria:

An Armed Forces Championship must be approved by the AFSC and meet the following criteria;

- Team sports – minimum of three (3) participating teams
- Individual sports of boxing and wrestling – minimum of two (2) individuals from separate services participate.

If entries in individual sports fall below the stated minimum, no team points will be awarded, unless otherwise specified in the individual sport rules.

Service Teams:

The number of authorized players is stated in each sports rules. Services may field teams at less than the authorized team number, however each team must have established minimum to count towards team points (e.g. 8 men and 4 women in triathlon)

The service representative must be in attendance for an entire Armed Forces Championship and are not allowed to be a coach, athlete or trainer.

Player/coaches are not allowed at the Armed Forces Sports Championships or higher-level competition. A coach will not serve a dual role of player/coach.

Authorized Participants:

Athletes must participate in the Armed Forces Championship to be eligible for higher-level competition.

Only Active Duty, U.S. Armed Forces personnel, to include Active Duty Reservists and National Guard (on active duty orders) are eligible to participate in Armed Forces Championships and any subsequent higher-level competition.

Academy Cadets and Prep Schools Cadet candidates shall be allowed to participate in the CISM World Military Games only in selected sports, as long as they are not displacing active duty personnel with competitive skills in those sports. Cadets **will not** be allowed to participate in Armed Forces Championships, nor the yearly CISM World Championships, since they have their own sports program, budget, and must comply with NCAA restrictions.

Coast Guard personnel are authorized to participate with Navy teams in Armed Forces competitions, unless they have enough participants to field a team. Navy and Marine Corps personnel may participate on the team of the service where the athlete is assigned. This must be coordinated through the Service Sport's Offices.

Rotation Schedule:

SPORT	2001	2002	2003	2004
BOXING	USA	USN	USAF	USMC
BASKETBALL (M & W)	USMC	USA	USN	USAF
WRESTLING	USAF	USMC	USA	USN
CROSS CTRY	USAF	USAF	USAF	USAF
VOLLEYBALL (M & W)	USA	USN	USAF	USMC
BOWLING (M & W)	USN	USA		
SOFTBALL (M & W)	USA	USN	USAF	USMC
MARATHON	USMC	USMC	USMC	USMC
GOLF (M & W)	USMC	USA	USN	USAF
SOCCER (W)	USN	USAF	USMC	USA
SOCCER (M)	USN	USAF	USMC	USA
RUGBY	USAF	USMC	USA	USN
TRIATHLON	USN	USN	USN	USN

Permanent Host Services:

Cross Country - Air Force

Bowling - Army

Triathlon - Navy

Marathon - Marine Corps

Internal switching does not affect above rotation schedule.

Boxing – USN gave 2002 championship to USMC

Rugby – USMC gave 2002 championship to USA (USA is permanent site)

Bowling – USN gave 2002 championship to USA

Boxing - USAF gave 2003 championship to USN

Wrestling - USA gave 2003 championship to USAF

M. Basketball - USN gave 2003 championship to USMC

Draw For Armed Forces Championships (for team sports):

In those Armed Forces Sports Championships where competition is conducted on a “team vs. team basis” (softball, basketball, volleyball, soccer, etc), the AFSWG conducts a tournament drawing to determine the tournament game schedule for all events prior to the first annual championship. This allows for advance tournament publicity and program printing. Daily match or game schedules will comply with the schedule established by the AFSC and will be included in the host installation’s information letter to each participating service. If scheduled dates do not coincide with the starting day of the week as listed in Section 6, the dates should be adjusted to start on the day of the week stated in the rules section.

2003	2004	2005	2006	2003 RUGBY ONLY
USMC vs. USN	USAF vs. USMC	USA vs. USN	USAF vs. USN	
USA vs. USAF	USA vs. USN	USAF vs. USMC	USA vs. USMC	
USAF vs. USMC	USN vs. USAF	USN vs. USAF	USA vs. USAF	A – USAF
USN vs. USA	USMC vs. USA	USA vs. USMC	USN vs. USMC	B – USCG
				C – USMC
				D – USA
USAF vs. USN	USN vs. USMC	USAF vs. USA	USAF vs. USMC	E – USN
USMC vs. USA	USA vs. USAF	USN vs. USMC	USA vs. USN	

NOTE: Draw for rugby is conducted at the Armed Forces Rugby organizational meeting for the next year.